

## Teacher's Vision Grant Summary

Employee Name: Matt Herring

School Name: Merriwether Middle School

Year of Implementation: 2023 - 2024

Project Title: Listen to the Music (Again)

I want to thank the Foundation for Public Schools in Edgefield County for their generosity in awarding this grant. Through the funding provided, I was able to purchase headphones and a loop station that have both greatly improved instruction in my class. My students have used these items in a wide variety of ways. For example, my students have used the headphones in conjunction with our classroom pianos as they begin to learn to play these instruments. This allows them to practice without worrying about others hearing them rehearse, which has a large impact on student comfort levels. Additionally, because students in my classes are often practicing individualized songs, the use of these headphones allows students to focus on their own pieces without hearing the distraction of many different songs being played at once.

The purchase of the loop station for my classroom has also opened doors to a variety of projects and activities for my classes. For example, we recently studied the history of rap music. As a part of our investigation into this genre, the students were able to use the loop station to create their own rap songs. By using the looper, the students could record themselves playing a bass line that they have created and then add melodic lines, drum beats, etc. to make their own compositions.

These examples only show a small portion of what this purchased technology offers my students. My students and I are excited to continue using the headphones and loop station in

new ways. We are so grateful for your generosity and for the opportunities that have now come as a result. Thank you again for awarding this grant and for all you do.